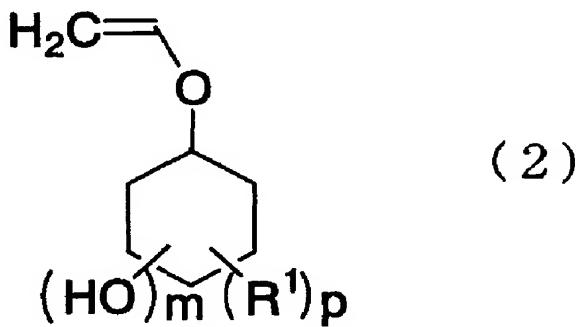


Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

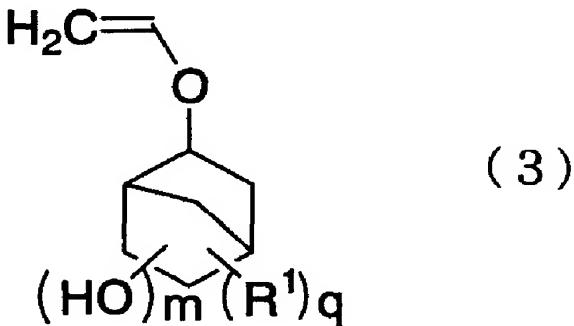
1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) A fluorine-containing vinyl ether according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula 2,



where R¹ is at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of –F, –CF₃, and –R²C(CF₃)₂OR³, where R² is CH₂ or C₂H₄, and R³ is H or an acid-labile protecting group, and

p is an integer of 1-5, and m is 0 or 1.

4. (Currently Amended) A fluorine-containing vinyl ether according to claim 1, which is represented by the formula 3,

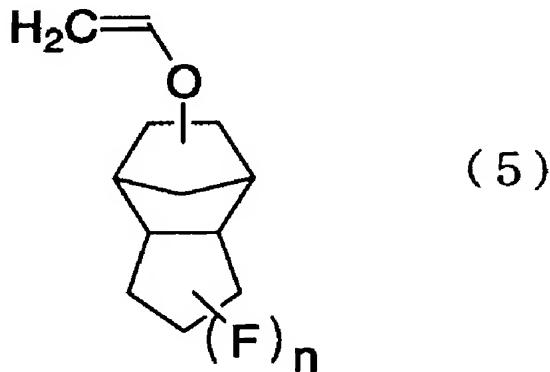


where R¹ is at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of –F, –CF₃, and –R²C(CF₃)₂OR³, where R² is CH₂ or C₂H₄, and R³ is H or an acid-labile protecting group, and

q is an integer of 1-4, and m is 0 or 1.

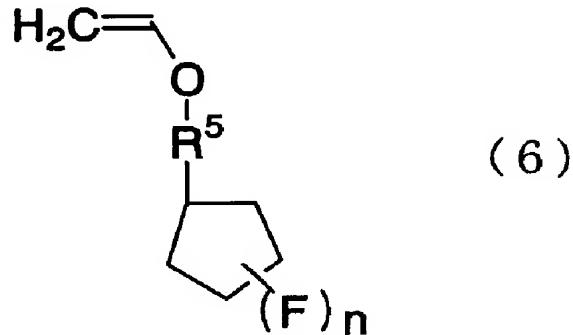
5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A fluorine-containing vinyl ether ~~according to claim 1~~, which is represented by the formula 5,



where n is an integer of 1-8.

7. (Currently Amended) A fluorine-containing vinyl ether ~~according to claim 1~~, which is represented by the formula 6,



where R⁵ is a C₀-C₅ alkyl group, and n is an integer of 1-8.

8. (Cancelled)

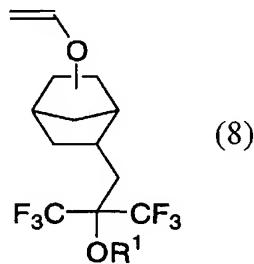
9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A fluorine-containing polymer comprising a unit derived from a fluorine-containing vinyl ether according to claim [[1]] 3.

11. (Original) A resist composition comprising a fluorine-containing polymer according to claim 10.

12. (Original) A fluorine-containing copolymer comprising:

a first unit derived from a first monomer that is a fluorine-containing vinyl ether represented by the formula 8:

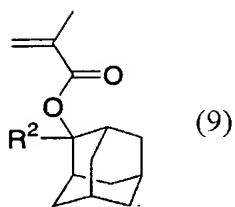


where R¹ is -H or a C₁-C₈ alkyl group that optionally contains an oxygen atom; and

a second unit derived from a second monomer that is at least one selected from the group consisting of acrylic esters and methacrylic esters.

13. (Original) A fluorine-containing copolymer according to claim 12, wherein the second monomer contains an acid-labile protecting group.

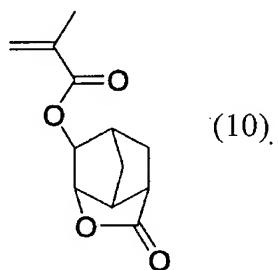
14. (Previously Presented) A fluorine-containing copolymer according to claim 12, wherein the second monomer is a first methacrylic ester represented by the general formula 9:



wherein R^2 is $-\text{CH}_3$ or $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$.

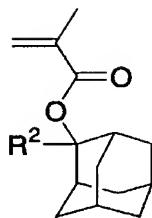
15. (Original) A fluorine-containing copolymer according to claim 12, wherein the second monomer is an acrylic or methacrylic ester comprising a lactone ring.

16. (Previously Presented) A fluorine-containing copolymer according to claim 12, wherein the second monomer is a second methacrylic ester represented by the formula 10:

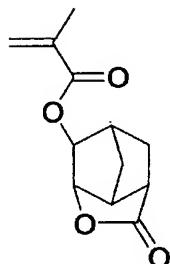


17. (Original) A fluorine-containing copolymer according to claim 12, wherein the second monomer is a combination of first and second methacrylic esters represented by the formulas 9 and 10, and

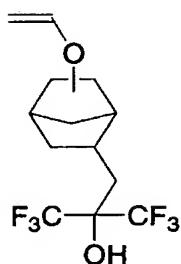
wherein the fluorine-containing vinyl ether is represented by the formula 11,



(9)



(10)



(11)

where R² is -CH₃ or -CH₂CH₃.

18. (Previously Presented) A resist composition comprising a fluorine-containing copolymer according to claim 12.

19. (New) A fluorine-containing polymer comprising a unit derived from a fluorine-containing vinyl ether according to claim 4.

20. (New) A resist composition comprising a fluorine-containing polymer according to claim 19.

21. (New) A fluorine-containing polymer comprising a unit derived from a fluorine-containing vinyl ether according to claim 6.

22. (New) A resist composition comprising a fluorine-containing polymer according to claim 21.
23. (New) A fluorine-containing polymer comprising a unit derived from a fluorine-containing vinyl ether according to claim 7.
24. (New) A resist composition comprising a fluorine-containing polymer according to claim 23.